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**Practice Finding the Vertex by Completing the Square**


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Find the vertex of the quadratic functions by completing the square.

a.  $f(x) = x^2 + 6x + 11$

b.  $y = x^2 - 10x + 2$

c.  $g(x) = x^2 + 4x$

d.  $y = x^2 - 5x + 4$

~~$y = x^2 - 6x + 8$~~   
 ~~$f(x) = x^2 - 6x + 8$~~

$\frac{-b}{2} = -3$   
 $(-3)^2 = 9$   
 $9 + -8 = x^2 - 6x + 9$

~~$y = x^2 - 6x + 8$~~   
 $0 = x^2 - 6x + 8$   
 $-8$        $+8$

$1 = (x-3)(x-3)$   
 $\sqrt{1} = \sqrt{(x-3)^2}$

$\pm 1 = x - 3$   
 $+3$        $+3$

$3 \pm 1 = x$

$3+1 = x$        $3-1 = x$   
 $4 = x$        $2 = x$

1. Set = 0
2. GCF
3.  $\frac{b}{2}$

**Day 8/9: Solving by Quadratic Formula**

**Exploring the Nature of Roots**

In this task you will investigate the number of real solutions to a quadratic equation.

1.  $f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 3$

a.) How many x-intercepts does the function have?

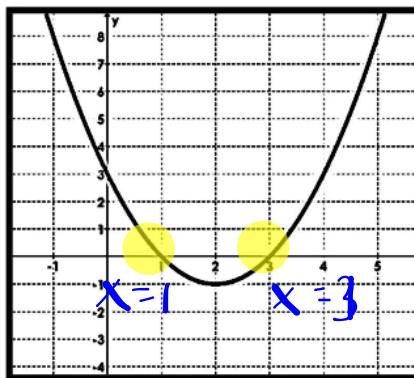
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b.) Label and state the x-intercept(s), if any.

$x = 1, x = 3$

c.) Solve the quadratic function by factoring, if possible.

$0 = x^2 - 4x + 3$       $x = 1$   
 $0 = (x-1)(x-3)$       $x = 3$



2.  $f(x) = x^2 + 10x + 25$

a.) How many x-intercepts does the function have?

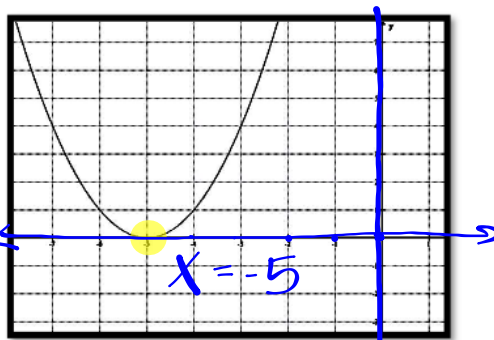
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b.) Label and state the x-intercept(s), if any.

$x = -5$

c.) Solve the quadratic function by factoring, if possible.

$0 = x^2 + 10x + 25$       $x + 5 = 0$   
 $0 = (x+5)(x+5)$       $x = -5$   
 $0 = (x+5)^2$



3.  $f(x) = x^2 + x + 1$

a.) How many x-intercepts does the function have?

none

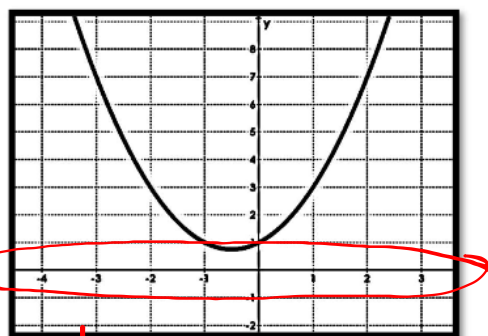
b.) Label and state the x-intercept(s), if any.

none

c.) Solve the quadratic function by factoring, if possible.

$y = x^2 + x + 1$

not possible to factor!



**The Discriminant**

Instead of observing a quadratic function's graph and/or solving it by factoring, there is an alternative way to determine the number of real solutions called the **discriminant**.

<p>Given a quadratic function in standard form:  <math>ax^2 + bx + c = 0</math>, where <math>a \neq 0</math>,</p> <p>The <b>discriminant</b> is found by using: <math>b^2 - 4ac</math></p> <p>This value is used to determine the number of real solutions/zeros/roots/x-intercepts that exist for a quadratic equation.</p>	<p><b>Interpretation of the Discriminant (<math>b^2 - 4ac</math>)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If <math>b^2 - 4ac</math> is positive: <b>2</b></li> <li>If <math>b^2 - 4ac</math> is zero: <b>1</b></li> <li>If <math>b^2 - 4ac</math> is negative: <b>none</b></li> </ul>
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**Practice:** Find the discriminant for the previous three functions:

a.)  $f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 3$   $b^2 - 4ac$

$a = 1$   $b = -4$   $c = 3$

$(-4)^2 - 4(1)(3) = 16 - 12 = 4$  (positive)

Discriminant: 4 (positive)

# of real solutions: 2

b.)  $f(x) = x^2 + 10x + 25$

$a = 1$   $b = 10$   $c = 25$

$(10)^2 - 4(1)(25) = 100 - 100 = 0$

Discriminant: 0

# of real zeros: 1

c.)  $f(x) = x^2 + x + 1$

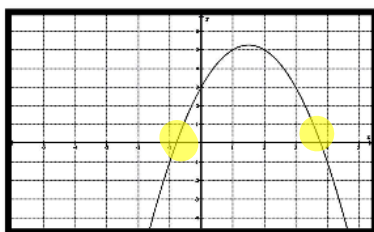
$a = 1$   $b = 1$   $c = 1$

$(1)^2 - 4(1)(1) = 1 - 4 = -3$  (negative)

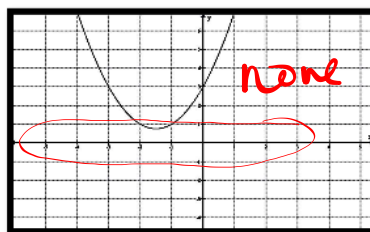
Discriminant: -3 (neg -)

# of real roots: no solution

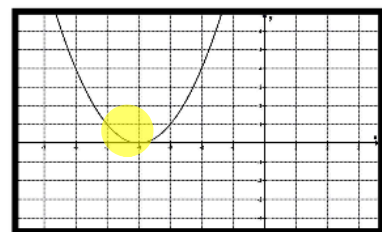
**Practice:** Determine whether the discriminant would be greater than, less than, or equal to zero.



positive  
discriminant



neg (-)  
discriminant



= 0  
discriminant